Advances given by banks in Andhra Pradesh

583. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount as advances given by the commercial banks in Andhra Pradesh during the years 1983-84 and 1984-85 and 1985-86;

(b) what was the credit deposit ratio of the banks in Andhra Pradesh during these three years, year-wise; and

(c) whether the ratio conforms to the All India ratio and if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) The advances of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Andhra Pradesh as at the end of December, 1983, December, 1984 and March, 1985 were Rs. 2478 crores, Rs. 3287 crores and Rs. 3442 crores respectively.

(b) and (c) Credit deposit ratio (per cent) of all Scheduled Commercial Banks in Andhra Pradesh was higher than all-India average during the above years as may be seen from the following table:—

	Andhra Pradesh	*All-India*
December, 1983	71.5	67.2
December, 1984	77.8	63.8
March, 1985	79.3	69.7

Appointment of Chairmen of State Trading Corporation

584. PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHAR REDDY:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that only four out of the nine Chairmen in the State Trading Corporation were full-time Chairmen during the last ten years;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the growth of the above Organisation has suffered due to *ad-hoc* appointment of its Chairmen and the long spells during which it had no full-time Chairmen ; and

(c) if so, what are the reasons for not appointing full-time Chairmen in the State Trading Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI P. SHIV SHANKER): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the period of 10 years from 1975-76 to 1984-85 the total turnover has gone up from 981.00 crores to Rs. 2865.53 crores and profit before tax from Rs. 14.5 crores to Rs. 61.13 crores.

(c) Action has already been initiated to select a full-time Chairmen for STC.

Import duty on medical equipments

585. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been Government's policy to levy lower import duty on components and parts required for manufacture of sophisticated medical diagnostic equipments and keep the import tariff high on such finished equipments;

(b) whether it is a fact that on 1st March, 1986 under the above policy, customs duty on components and parts required to manufacture about 15 items like CAT SCANNERS was reduced from 98 per cent to 40 per cent; and

(c) whether it is also a fact that on the same date while customs duty on about 111 sophisticated medical diagnostic equipments was lowered

from 98 per cent to 40 per cent, similar reduction on components and parts required to manufacture the same equipments has not been effected; if so, by when it is likely to be effected?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) In order to encourage domestic production of medical equipments for which there is a capacity in the country, concessional rates of customs duty are generally levied in respect of components for the manufacture of such medical equipments.

(b) In view of the above, the import duty on components for manufacture of 15 identified medical equipments was reduced to 40 per cent *ad-valorem* in the Budget of 1986.

(c) In the 1985 Budget, import duty on 10 specified sophisticated medical equipments was reduced to 45 percent *ad-valorem*. This list was enlarged in the 1986 Budget by adding 101 items of medical equipments and the duty reduced to 40 per cent *ad-valorem* on all items of medical equipments. On representation from the industry that 19 medical equipments are manufactured in the country, import duty on components for the manufacture of these medical equipments also has been reduced to 40 per cent *ad-valorem* on 24th April, 1986.

Setting up of Consumer Protection Council in States

586. SHRI LAL K. ADVANI: SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Delhi Administration is bringing out a Bill called Delhi Compulsory Mention of Retail Prices of Articles for advertisements in newspapers as reported in the Times of India of the 23rd March last; if so, what action Government have taken thereon; and

(b) whether Government propose to set up a Consumer Protection Council, a Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum and a Directorate of Consumers' Affairs in each State/Union Territory; if so, what are the outlines thereof and what would be their functions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND IN THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (SHRI AJIT PANJA): (a) Yes, Sir. The Bill after having been passed by the Executive Council of the Delhi Administration, was received in the Department of Civil Supplies for approval to its introduction in the Metropolitan Council. The approval has since been communicated to Delhi Administration.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Government is considering a Draft Model Law on Consumer Protection for adoption by the States/Union Territories. The Draft Model Law provides for setting up a Consumer Protection Council, Directorate of Consumers' Affairs and a Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum. The Consumer Protection Council shall promote and protect the rights of the consumer such as right to safety, right to be informed, right to choose, right to be heard and right to seek redressal against unscrupulous exploitation of consumers by some manufacturers/traders. The Council will undertake programme for providing information and education to consumers and development of consumer protection movement. The Directorate of Consumer Affairs will be an executive arm to receive consumers' complaints and to act on them. The Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum will be a quasi-judicial machinery for speedy and inexpensive settlement of consumer disputes.